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The Non-Subscribing Presbyterian

No. 392.

JUNE, 1939.

WAY.

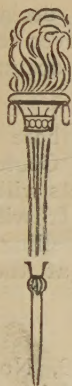
TRUTH.

LIFE.

JOHN XIV. 6. "Jesus saith, I am the way, and the truth, and the life."

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THE REV. JOHN BEGG—PIONEER PREACHER 1914-19.

ED. H.M.C. AND VICT. UNIV., 1919-21; MINISTER, COLNE, 1921-23; DOWNPATRICK, 1923-26; LARNE, 1926. MODERATOR N.S.P. CHURCH. 1932-33. FOR MANY YEARS SEC. OF ASSOC. OF N.S.P. AND OTHER FREE CHRISTIANS

NOTES AND NEWS.

"Thou art the Path" is an Eastern Salutation of pupil to teacher. "I am the Way" replies the teacher. Whatever the branch of knowledge, to that the teacher is the way. What was the subject, Jesus taught? "The knowledge of God which is life eternal." Knowledge is more than belief, it is realisation. The Jews *believe* in God, Jesus taught it was possible to *know* God. "Eternal=now; —the Eternal Now.

Martin Luther carried through his work of Reformation in the face of enormous difficulty; work which involved his country in the Thirty Years' War, though that was not entirely due to the rise of Protestantism; but was the bursting into flame of long smouldering political causes. But, often in time of tension and strain, he would turn to his friend Philip Melancthon, and say "Now Philip, let us sing the 46th Psalm! God is our refuge and

strength, a very present help in trouble. . . . He maketh wars to cease unto the end of the earth. . . . Be still and know that I am God ; I will be exalted among the nations'."

* * *

Injustice is done to religion when it is regarded as a body of doctrine, or something just pertaining to a church. Religion is a power, it means "that which binds us to God," just in the same way as a young tree in the garden is tied to a strong support. Next perhaps to the family bond itself, there is no tie so strong and tender as that which binds anyone to his church. There is always a dread of sacrilegious hands being laid on holy things, "Remove not the ancient landmarks" is a scriptural precept. The continuity which unites us at the present day with the early beginnings is always most precious. In very early days, for instance, we heard of a Presbyterian Synod of very Liberal views, and learned later of the fascinating history of the Remonstrant Synod of Ulster. We have always been glad that its constitution and Code have been preserved intact, for its constitution was that of the old General Synod of Ulster, which allowed latitude as to subscription and non-subscription; and any suggestion to do away with the R.S.U. is like the piercing of a dagger through the heart. If we have any regard for history, any feeling of reverence, we will guard the ancient landmarks. It has been necessary evidently, to disband the Association of N.S.P. and Free Christian Churches, to make way for the General Synod. It has meant years of work preparing the case; though some of us even now scarcely see the necessity for it. However the preparations are reaching the final stage. Let it be the final stage; we have no money to spend on further litigation.

* * *

June is always an eventful month and notices will be found elsewhere dealing with the Sunday School Conference and the Synod Meetings.

* * *

The Sunday School Conference will be at Crumlin this year. Aldergrove with its aerodromes is not far away, and the practice of aeroplanes over Lough Neagh may be an interesting sight in itself, without thinking too much of any ulterior possibility.

* * *

We learn from "The Speculative Mason" that the latest edict in Germany runs:—"All Freemasons' Lodges still existing in Germany,

and all organisations that are regarded as being of a Freemason nature, such as the Order of Oddfellows, the Order of Druids, the Order of Rechabites, and theosophical societies, are ordered to be dissolved. The new decree includes also the German Peace Society. All officials who withdraw from any of these lodges or societies only after January 30th, 1933, are excluded from promotion.

A similar edict has been issued in Spain. Penalties varying with the gravity of the offence include exile from Spain, exile to the North African colonies, exile from their native province, prohibition from holding public office, restrictions of freedom concerning place of residence, total or partial forfeiture of property, and fines. The terms of exile will vary from fifteen years to six months.

* * *

The N.S.P. Church, as such, is not responsible for any opinion or declaration in this magazine, by whomsoever expressed, unless contained in an official document.

* * *

"For the convenience of those who are going to the Sunday School Conference at Crumlin on June, 3rd. Tickets will be available at the DEPOSITORY. It will greatly assist those in charge of travelling arrangements if purchases are made at the earliest possible date."

* * *

CORRECTIONS—May, 1939, No. p. 59. A philosophy. . . makes no claim to *mystic* powers,—instead of *majestic*, as printed.

Review, p. 63. "Sunday Press," should be "Lindsey Press." [ED.]

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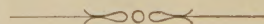
PULPIT SUPPLY.—The Rev. W. Eakin, 103 Greenore Street, Belfast.

* * *

July, 1939, number published on June 24th. Copy sent in before June 17th will be received by Rev. John Barron, Ballywalter, Co. Down.

* * *

Half-yearly subscriptions are due this month.



SUBSIDY FUND.

Contributions should be addressed to Rev. A. Davison, Dromore, by whom they will be gratefully acknowledged.

**The
Non-Subscribing Presbyterian Church
of Ireland.**

Annual

SUNDAY SCHOOL CONFERENCE

will be held

AT CRUMLIN,

On Saturday, 3rd June, 1939, at 3 p.m.

Speaker:

The Rev. HENRY HALL, Downpatrick.

Subject: "Training in Worship."

The Moderator: The Right Rev. E. Savell Hicks, M.A., will preside.

Collection in aid of Conference Funds.

Tea will be served at the charge of 6d.

Train Ex-Belfast, 1-15 p.m. Return Train, 5-54 p.m. Return Fare for 50 to 99 passengers, 1/5. Return Fare for 100 and upwards, 1/3. Bus Ex-Belfast 1-15 p.m. Return Bus 7-34 p.m. Return Fare for 7 passengers or over 2/2 by Voucher.

The number of members from each Church who intend being present at the Conference should be communicated to the **Rev. J. Hinkins, M.A., The Manse, Crumlin**, not later than Monday, 29th May, 1939.

Killinchy — Installation.—Presbytery of Bangor will instal Rev. Alexander M. Bell, as Minister, on Thursday, June 29th at 6 p.m.

Khasi News No. 4, the General Assembly's "wall-newspaper," which has just been sent to ministers for their churches and schools, is a biographical number this time. It contains photographs of Miss Barr and some of the leaders of the Khasi Unitarian churches, with biographical notes, and also a picture of some of the children who live in Miss Barr's house and attend her school. Secretaries are asked to pin up copies in every church and school. Collecting envelopes can be obtained from Essex Hall.

THE ANNUAL MEETING

of the Non-Subscribing Presbyterian Church of Ireland will be held on Tuesday and Wednesday, June 20th and 21st, 1939, in the First Presbyterian Church, Rosemary St., Belfast.

Tuesday, June 20th.

2-30 p.m.—Annual Meeting of the Association of Irish Non-Subscribing Presbyterians and other Free Christians.

4-30 p.m.—Annual Meeting of the Remonstrant Synod of Ulster.

8 p.m.—Annual Lecture in the Central Hall, by the Rev. R. F. Rattray, M.A., Ph.D., Cambridge; subject: "Has Liberal Christianity Failed?"

Wednesday, June 21st.

10-30 a.m.—Communion Service in the Church.

11-15 a.m.—Business Meeting of the General Synod.

7-30 to 10 p.m.—Conversazione in the Central Hall.

**THE BODEL-MACKENZIE
BENEVOLENT FUND.**

This fund since its inception has done and is doing excellent work in our midst, but more could be done, if the fund were more generally supported by our denomination. The Trustees regret that every year they have to disappoint deserving applicants owing to lack of sufficient income. There are thirty beneficiaries at present on the list, who belong to twenty congregations, yet only three congregations contribute annually to the fund.

The Trustees therefore appeal to every congregation, that is not already contributing, for an annual subscription or collection in aid of the fund.

J. D. DAVIES, Assistant Secretary.

THE DIVINE WISDOM.

Proverbs III, 5 and 6. "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart, and lean not to thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct thy paths."

REPORTS.

Ministers' Conference:—The 330th meeting of the Ministers' Conference was held at Beechcroft, Holywood, on May 1st, the host being the Rev. C. J. Montgomery, M.A. The new catechism: "Child's Guide to the Christian Life" came up for discussion and that raised the whole question of catechisms. In the North of Ireland, as in Scotland, the Shorter Catechism has a very strong hold in religious instruction, and is taught in the schools. Parents frequently are not satisfied with what they consider 'vague,' and in a catechism there is at least something to get hold of. The Shorter Catechism was "designed for those of weaker capacity" as in contradistinction to "the Longer Catechism." Both summarised the Westminster Confession of Faith, debates on which took up a considerable time of Parliament in the Puritan Supremacy in England. The Shorter Catechism is in good sturdy English language, and its compilers knew their own minds. Every possible point of theology is dealt with, and Dr. Joseph Priestly made it the ground-work of his system. According to trust deed, it had to be taught in a certain school in England, and that school turned out good Unitarians, because it was taught and confuted. The Independents had more to do with compiling it than had Presbyterians, but the former have dropped it, long before the latter. Evangelical Free Church Council in England, under leadership of Dr. Oswald Dykes (Presbyterian) and Hugh Price Hughes (Wesleyan) drafted catechism for all Nonconformists, language of which was described as "many sided as that of Scripture itself." It was issued with a great flourish of trumpets and quickly forgotten. Rev. A. Gordon taught "Child's Guide," "Christian Catechism," and "Shorter Catechism" without having them memorised. They were useful for Scriptural proofs, more important in earlier than later days. Prominent Presbyterian elder in Belfast on reading our two remarked of N.S.P.—"Very little would have kept them in," e.g., "non-subscription." Claims of Domestic Mission received sympathetic consideration; decided to leave

advocacy to discretion of individual ministers. The beautiful day and surroundings made the gathering a very happy one, and Miss Montgomery proved to be an ideal hostess. Next meeting, Cairncastle, June 5th at 3 p.m.

Association of Non-Subscribing and Free Christian Congregations:—We are glad to say that the information referred to in our last number, as to the foundation of the Association, has been found in the Minutes of 1835, by the Rev. J. D. Davies, Clerk of Synod.

First Church, Belfast:—On Easter Sunday evening the Church choir, under the direction of Mr. Albert Taylor, L.R.A.M., A.R.C.M., rendered selections from Gaul's "The Holy City." The numbers given comprised both solo and chorus items. The soloists were: Miss Anne Duthie (soprano); Miss L. Victoria Gordon (contralto); Mr. David Houston (tenor); and Mr. J. A. Laird (bass). A good congregation was present for the occasion. On Sunday morning, March 26th, in the Sunday School, the Rev. R. W. Wilde presented to Mr. R. McCrum the Sunday School Association's "Long Service Medal." Mr. McCrum has served the School as Superintendent for more than 22 years, and has a still longer period of service as a teacher. He is held in high regard and affection by both scholars and teachers. To the work of the Sunday School he has brought fine qualities of character and a staunch loyalty. A letter from the Secretary of the Sunday School Association, conveying to Mr. McCrum the Association's greetings and appreciation, was read by Mr. Andrew McNeile. Mr. McCrum suitably responded. Recent weeks have seen the closing down of various winter activities. The annual meeting of the Rosemary Dramatic Society took place on March 28th, when a very successful year of work was reported. Mr. R. McCrum was re-elected President, Mr. F. Bartley, Treasurer, and Mr. T. McNeile, Secretary. The Women's League held its annual meeting on March 29th. This Society also has had a busy and fruitful winter. Mrs. R. W. Wilde was elected President, Miss Arm-

strong Vice-President, Mrs. Leith Secretary, and Miss M. Laird Treasurer. The Junior Women's League had its Closing Party on March 30th, when a number of guests were present by invitation. The major part of the evening was devoted to a Table Tennis tournament, which, after close contest, was finally won by Miss Nellie McCullough. Miss Wood, on behalf of the Junior League, formally presented to the Central Hall, 8 chromium teapots and 2 hot water jugs, together with 9 dozen fruit plates and chromium fruit spoons. This thoughtful and timely gift is very deeply appreciated. The Discussion Circle met for the final meeting of the 1938/39 session on Sunday afternoon, April 2nd, under the chairmanship of Mr. T. Moore. A hot debate took place after which plans and syllabus for next winter were fully discussed and decided upon. Rambles are being arranged by both the Discussion Circle and the Junior Women's League, and are being greatly enjoyed by those attending them. Communion Service was observed on April 16th, when a large congregation was present.

Moneyrea.—The congregation was honoured by a visit from the Moderator—the Rev. E. Savell Hicks, M.A., Dublin, on Sunday, 23rd April, who conducted inspiring services and whose eloquent sermons were highly appreciated by all who were present, morning and evening. The special soloist was Miss Eileen Ervine, Belfast, who rendered most beautifully the solos—"How lovely are Thy dwellings," and "Thanks be to God." The collections taken up were in aid of church funds.

The Sunday School anniversary services were held on Sunday, May 14th. The Meeting House was tastefully decorated with flowers and leaves for the occasion by the Sunday scholars under the direction of Miss R. Kennedy, and Miss E. Dempster. The Rev John McCleery, B.A., S.T.M., Newry, officiated morning and evening, and his appropriate discourses impressed both young and old. It was the Children's Day, morning and evening they sang special hymns and choruses with clear voices and in a very effective style, whilst the solos were sweetly rendered

by Miss Marie Bailie, all of whom had been trained by Mrs. McCartney, who presided at the organ.

The B.B.C. Address.—Some who had the privilege of listening in on Sunday, April 30th, to the address of the Rev. J. Shaw Browne, have unanimously reported in terms of great praise, of the delivery, the style and the matter of the address, as doing very great credit to the denomination. The opportunity of being represented in this way does not frequently occur, and Mr. Shaw Browne evidently rose to the occasion.

Belfast York Street:—The attendance at the Spring Communion was the largest we have known in spite of the absence of many good members in the country. A good attendance at Communion has always been a sign with us of a happy and healthy state of affairs in the congregation and this year we were glad to see many of our own young people who have grown up in the Church—present as well as new members.

The Communion Service marks the end of our winter activities and though some feel that they might be continued a little longer we have to consider our workers.

The Fellowship looks back on another year of increased attendances, our chief guest speakers this year being Professor Davey and the Chief Rabbi. The Dramatic Society gave what turned out to be one of the most popular of their performances. So successful was the "Band" that it has been able to carry on providing the music for two socials since. Whist Drives have been a new experiment with us and we propose to continue them quietly through the summer. All these efforts and many new ones will have to be attempted in the next year. Congregations which raise £600 once in a lifetime consider it a great accomplishment. We have been doing more than this for the past many years. Now we are attempting to raise the sum of £1,000 to celebrate our Centenary in September, 1940, and though unfortunately we are faced with spending £300 on our roof alone after which the whole Church will have to be renovated, we propose to go on working as we had planned before this misfortune,

and every member has been informed that any special effort must not reduce our ordinary efforts in any way as the usual expenses of the Church must be raised.

By September of 1940 we hope that the Church and Hall will be so complete that no further work will be required for many years and that we shall have 350 subscribing members with a minimum of investments sufficient to enable a reasonable salary to be offered to any Minister. When we consider that in 1920 there had been no minister for six years and that the position was considered hopeless we may be satisfied. Those who once considered that it was useless in our Denomination attempting to start new Churches even with the whole Body behind them should be encouraged to see what has been done in it almost unaided. Practically a new Church and an entirely new and enthusiastic congregation has been added to it in the centre of Belfast, and it would only require the slightest effort now to secure it for all time. No official appeal is being sent out to other congregations or individuals unless when some of our members approach their friends. For that reason we are delighted with the generous subscriptions that we have received. One of our Churches in England with problems of its own has offered a retiring collection and entire strangers have contributed handsomely. Our Treasurer will gratefully acknowledge any sum however small. One friend sending five pounds in notes declines to give his name saying that we deserve his thanks for giving him an opportunity which he had never hoped to have of subscribing to a new Non-Subscribing Congregation in Belfast. With that spirit abroad, we hope to accomplish the almost impossible. Every member was asked to begin his or her effort on May 1st. The fund then stood at £250, one-quarter of the amount required.

Downpatrick.—Special sermons were preached on Sunday, May 7th, by Rev. R. W. Wilde, M.A., B.Sc., Morning:—Prov. II: 2. "Incline thine ear unto wisdom, and apply thine heart to understanding." An American preacher said "The New Testament was the

greatest treatise on self respect that ever has been written." Concerning God,—vital faith was more than recital of creed. Concerning meaning and purpose of life, we were here to grow a soul and to help build Kingdom of God on earth. Evening:—"Diversity of gifts, but same spirit." Church stood for three things: reality of the invisible, sense of community and fellowship, the worth of the human soul. The Church was the most daring experiment in fellowship. The Church revered the worth of the individual. Be loyal to the Church of Christ.

In the evening Mr. R. D. Peel, of Armagh Old Cathedral, a gifted and acceptable soloist, sang 'The Prayer,' by Hillier, and 'Seek ye the Lord,' by Proctor. There was an augmented choir, with Miss Marie Henry, L.L.C.M. at the organ. The thanks of the congregation are given to those who kindly acted as collectors and also to Dr. Lothian, R.M.S., Down Mental Hospital, for the loan of plants to adorn the church.

Old Presbyterian Congregation of Larne and Kilwaughter.—The winter activities in connection with the congregation were brought to a conclusion in April. These activities ministered to the social life of the Church in every department. For example, our branch of the Women's League with their own splendid organisation never failed as a source of help and inspiration. Then there was the Young People's League with its interest and concern centred in the mental and physical enthusiasm of youth. There was the Unity Club, striving hard for proficiency at Table Tennis—and making quite a fair show at it too! There was the "Children's Hour"—a hive of excitement where things were not only done for the children, but where they were encouraged to do things for themselves. To outline in detail the work of these and other activities of the congregation would be out of place here. Suffice it to say that there is hardly a night from the beginning of autumn to the end of April when our valuable school premises are not in full use.

It may not be generally known that,

within the last ten or twelve years our congregation has spent hundreds of pounds in renovations to its property. In addition, by a splendid scheme of "Voluntary Improvement" a new porch was added to the schoolroom and the outside walls, etc., re-plastered. New Hymn Boards were given to the Church. The generous donation of a friend contributed to the installation of electric power for the organ, whilst another friend presented a piano to replace the old one in the schoolroom.

For several years, because of the tremendous outlay in renovations, our annual statement of accounts showed a considerable deficit. Last year, however, and again this year, we have shown our audited statement of accounts free of debt. The present minister of the congregation can only speak in highest praise of the unselfish loyalty and support of a devoted people. They are a people who know and respect the value of their church's tradition. In quiet ways, but with a genuine sincerity they reveal their love of the House raised by their fathers for the Worship of God.

In these days there are undoubted problems for the city churches, and no less awkward problems for churches in provincial towns and country districts. To meet these problems there are many and diverse methods since the problems themselves are diverse. The one essential factor in all places, whether it bring the outward signs of success or the less obvious signs of a quiet continuity, is a genuine devotion of heart and mind to the calls and claims of the human spirit striving in a very difficult world to find a way to God and peace.

Antrim:—The annual congregational meeting was held on Wednesday evening, May 10th, in the School-room of the Old Presbyterian Meeting House. There was a large and enthusiastic gathering of members and adherents. The minister's address was bright and most encouraging. Numerically and financially the congregation was better than at any time during his ministry in Antrim. The membership had increased, the balance in hand at the close of the year larger, and the attendance at the Sunday service improving, which

made all those present both bright and hopeful. The congregation afterwards adjourned to Jameson's Cafe for tea which was served sumptuously, and was fully appreciated by everyone present, while the conversation over the work in our congregation continued till a late hour, everyone bright and cheery as to the future of our congregation in Antrim. A hearty vote of thanks was moved by Mr. Stevenson, and seconded by Mr. Forrest, to the minister and his wife.

Baptism.

Ellen Jane, daughter of James and Hannah Lilburn, on Sunday, April 9th.

Men's League, Belfast Chapter.—At the last meeting of the above it was decided that the members would visit Crumlin, on Sunday, June 18th, for the purpose of attending the service to be held there at 3-30 p.m., when the preacher will be the Rev. R. W. Wilde, M.A., B.Sc.

With this object in view several gentlemen undertook to provide seating accommodation in their cars and it was expected that others would also similarly oblige.

The arrangements made are as follows:—

Those having seats available and those desiring to travel to inform Dr. A. L. Agnew, B.A., D.D., York Street Church, Belfast, or Mr. W. J. Tate, 35, Rosemary Street, Belfast.

All cars and passengers to be at the Central Hall, Rosemary Street, at 2-45 p.m.

Will all concerned kindly take special notice of this event.

Mountpottinger.—In celebration of the 75th Anniversary of the commencement of the Sunday School from which the Church was formed in 1874 (approx.) a Social Meeting was held in the Schoolroom, on Friday, May 12th.

The ministers of First Church, All Souls', York Street, were present together with Rev. W. Eakin and several lay members of our churches.

The minister, Rev. F. Munford, B.A., occupied the chair. Mr. H. J. F. Orr gave an interesting historical account of the congregation from its early days

and congratulatory speeches were made by the above-named ministers.

A link with the early days was the presence of the grandmother of present-day scholars in the Sunday school who had been a scholar when movement was in its infancy.

Musical items were rendered by the choir, with the Rev. F. Munford as accompanist.

Anniversary services were held on Sunday, May 21st, when there were good attendances to hear the minister's special sermons. Solos were given with much acceptance by Miss Eileen Ervine at the morning service, and by Miss Adelaide Beattie, a former Sunday school scholar, in the evening.

Clough.—The annual prize-giving for the scholars in the Sunday school, took place on Easter Sunday. The minister gave a short address appropriate to the occasion, and Mrs. Shaw Brown presented the prizes on behalf of the Sunday school teacher. Thirty prizebooks were given to the scholars. A Jumble sale on behalf of Sunday school funds, organised and arranged by the teacher, Miss Mollie Hay, Lodge Hill, was carried through most successfully at the Court-house, Seaford, on Friday, 19th May. It is expected that after all expenses are paid the satisfactory sum of £18 will be handed to the Sunday school. The helpers were: Mrs. Shaw Brown, Mrs. M. Hay, Lodge Hill, Clough; Mrs. Macauley, The Mill, Clough; Miss Sadie Donnan, Annsborough; Miss Madge Kirkpatrick, Drumcaw; Miss Myrtle Shaw, Drumroad Mills; Miss Mary Moffat, Ballykeel; Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Donnan, Annsborough; Mr. Jack Hay, Mr. David Shaw, and Mr. James Frazer, Clough.

Dromore.—The special Sunday school Anniversary services, which were held on Sunday, May 7th, were attended by large congregations, the young people turning out in very large numbers. The Rev. E. Savell Hicks, Moderator of Synod, who was the special preacher, delivered appropriate and interesting addresses at both services. Mrs. T. Bloomfield (prize-winner, Newry Feis, 1939), was the special soloist at the morning service, and gave an exquisite

rendering of "He shall feed His flock," from the Messiah. The junior and senior choirs rendered two anthems, "Day of Song," and "Truth and Right," both morning and evening. Mr. E. S. Mills presided at the organ with customary efficiency. The collection, in aid of school funds, was taken up by members of the committee, and met with a liberal response.

Mountpottinger Women's League.—

On April 25th a "Kitchen Shower" was held. There was a good attendance of members. After the sale there was a programme of recitations and community singing. Miss I. Spratt, who recited, very kindly responded to many requests. Mr. Munford was the accompanist. The singing of "Auld Lang Syne" brought the evening and the winter session to a close.

Killinchy.—On Sunday afternoon, 23rd April, the Killinchy Women's League Service was taken by the then Moderator, Rev. E. Savell Hicks, M.A., of Dublin. A very large congregation was present and listened very attentively to his clever and interesting discourse. The augmented choir, and the organist, Miss J. Russell, did their share in making the service bright and uplifting, while Mrs. J. K. Murphy rendered two solos very effectively, one of which was "The Lost Chord."

Special collectors from our neighbouring and city N.S.P. churches were present, and the collection which was in aid of the Manse Renovation Fund, has amounted to £67. The members of the League through the medium of this Magazine, thank the Rev. E. Savell Hicks, the special collectors, the subscribers, who were unable to be present, the members of the congregation from other churches, and those members of the church committee who assisted in making the service a success.

On March 24th, a Whist Drive and Dance was held in Ardmillan Orange Hall. It was organised by the Killinchy Branch of Women's League, in aid of the Ards Hospital. Miss S. M. Haye acted as M.C. for whist players. Tables numbering thirty. Miss E. McCann and Mrs. H. Kelly gave out score cards, and were collectors of money. Mrs.

J. McClements, Mrs. H. McClements, Miss J. Finlay, and Mrs. Geddis were in charge of the tea, while the young members served out supper in a very capable manner. Mrs. Young "Annsfield," Killyleagh, kindly distributed the prizes.

A most enjoyable dance followed, the music being supplied by Messrs. Kenmore, Rogers and Russell. During the evening the following folk dances were given by League members, assisted by six young ladies from Mr. P. O'Rafferty's class: "The Soldier's Joy," "The Fairy Reel," "The Rinnicmor" and "Harvest Time Jig." The folk dancing was much appreciated, and the dancers, in their pretty green linen frocks, looked quite picturesque. A sum of seventeen guineas was handed over to the Hospital. To those friends who supplied prizes the League tenders thanks.

League meetings were brought to a close by holding a very sociable party in the Bishop Hall, on Tuesday evening, 18th April. After a nice tea, games, spelling and humming Bees, and a tongue twister competition soon brought a happy evening to an end.

Ardmillan and Ballydorn school, under the managership of Rev. D. J. Williams, has been successful in obtaining "The Carlisle and Blake Premium," the coveted Blue Riband of the Teaching Profession. The late Miss Pinnance of Comber, was the Principal of this school for many long years. Even after her retirement she maintained a great interest in this school, visiting it frequently.

Her death took place a short time ago, but no one would have evinced greater pleasure in its late success. The present teachers and pupils should feel very proud of their achievement.—I. M. M.

Newry Garden Party.—A very hearty invitation is extended to all to be present at this happy social event which is being held this year as usual in the grounds of The Manse, on Wednesday, June 14th. Our Newry Church has done great work in the past twelve months, Church and Manse have been re-decorated, a new boiler has been installed, and several other improvements are

under contemplation. Unfortunately there is a slight debt at the moment which is causing some delay in the good work, and the Women's Club of the Church hope to be able to balance the budget with the proceeds from the Garden Party. We enumerate a few of the attractions which the women have arranged for that date:—Opening ceremony at 3-30 p.m., to be performed by Mrs. E. Hunter Moore, of Moore Lodge, Newry, and our distinguished Moderator from Dublin, presiding. Tea at 4 o'clock. Open Air Concert at 5. This is actually a prize-winners' concert as all the artistes have won cups and medals at the local and other Feis in Ulster and Eire. In addition there will be numerous sideshows, and the usual sales of cakes, farm produce and needlework. A good day, a good attendance and no one need have any fears that a long drive to Newry will not have been eminently worth while, the Newry hospitality is excellent, and the support thus given to a flourishing cause on the Border will be appreciated and stimulating.

OBITUARY.

Mr. James Blair.

It is with deep regret we announce the death of Mr. James Blair, of Moneyrea, who passed away unexpectedly in the Ards District Hospital, on Sunday, May 7th. Mr. Blair was of Unitarian lineage, and like his forefathers, had been closely and actively connected with Moneyrea Church all his days. For a great many years, he was an elected member of the committee, and the official churchwarden. He was a fine type of a man, liberal in mind, broad in sympathy, godly in his ways, and always very friendly. Naturally, he was highly respected by all classes and creeds in the neighbourhood. The congregation has suffered a very serious loss by his death, for he was an example in the matter of regular attendance and willing support of his church, as well as in personal character. The funeral which took place on the following Tuesday, was attended by a very large concourse of friends, who profoundly sympathise with the sorrowing widow and son in their bereavement.

**Miss Isabella Ferguson, Ballykeel,
Clough.**

It is with deep regret we record the passing of one of the most loyal members of Clough. She was Sunday school scholar in the time of the Rev. W. Napier, and her family have always been connected with the church. In all the several undertakings in the church and school she was always ready to lend a hand and by her cheerfulness and good humour helped things along. For the past 8 months she was affected with trouble through her teeth, which became very serious during the last few weeks, and she passed peacefully away on Thursday morning, 11th May. The funeral at Clough Church, on Saturday, 13th May, was largely attended by her friends and neighbours and general regret was felt that she should have been called home at such an early age. Our sympathy is with her sister, Miss Kate Ferguson, in her bereavement.

Miss E. R. Smith.

The Mountpottinger congregation heard with regret of the passing of one who, until taking up residence at Whitehead some two or three years ago, was a faithful member. Miss Smith was of a retiring disposition and consequently took no active participation in congregational affairs, but always supported any movement for its benefit. Interment took place at Templepatrick on May 9th, when Rev. F. Munford, B.A., conducted the service, being assisted by Rev. W. G. Marsden of Ballycarry, since, when at Whitehead, the deceased lady had associated herself with the Ballycarry congregation.

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Mountpottinger Unitarian Church.

Dear Sir,—In my Historical Notes on above Church I am informed I made a mistatement regarding the Flower service. This service has always been held since its inception and generally on second Sunday in June.

"Wreath of floral beauty" should read "wealth of floral beauty."

Yours truly,

H. J. F. ORR.

BELFAST DOMESTIC MISSION.

Dear Sir,—We shall be grateful if you will allow us the hospitality of your columns to make known a project in connection with the Stanhope Street Domestic Mission, Belfast.

The feeling has been widely expressed that the work of the Malcolm family for the Mission should be recorded in some permanent fashion. This family have been closely associated with the Mission since its foundation in 1853, and over a period of many years they gave to it most earnest, enthusiastic, and unstinting service.

It is proposed to record these facts upon a brass memorial tablet to be erected in the Mission Church. The estimated cost will not exceed £15.

We feel sure that there will be many who, having known the Malcolm family and their long and honourable connection with the Mission, would like to be associated with this present object. We appeal to such to send a donation to any one of the undersigned. Even small subscriptions will be very gratefully received. It is proposed later to publish a list of subscribers.

We are, Yours sincerely,
For the Domestic Mission Executive Committee:—

(Rev.) REGINALD W. WILDE,
Chairman, Ardeevin, 26,
Cadogan Park, Belfast.

(Mrs.) W. NEWMAN, Secretary,
34, Fitzroy Avenue, Belfast.

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May, 1939.

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